

1997 Lightning Fatalities

In 1997, lightning caused 42 fatalities, 10 less than in 1996. This is nearly half the 30-year average of 81 deaths annually. There were 306 injuries due to lightning. Florida again had the highest number of fatalities with 8, followed by Colorado with 5. Of the 42 lightning deaths, 19 (45%) occurred in the open, 7 in other/unknown, and 6 under trees. More than 7 times as many males (37) as females (5) died from lightning. Most of the victims ranged in age from 20 and 59 (78%).

1997 LIGHTNING FATALITIES BY STATE AND LOCATION

<u>STATE</u>	<u>BF</u>	<u>BO</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>EQ</u>	<u>GF</u>	<u>IW</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>OU</u>	<u>TE</u>	<u>UT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
AL	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
AR	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	3
AZ	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
CO	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	1	5
CT	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
FL	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	2	8
GA	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
ID	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
IL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
ND	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
NE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
NJ	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
NM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
OK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
OR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
PA	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
SC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
TX	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	3
UT	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
VA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
WI	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	3
WV	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	1	2	3	2	1	1	7	19	0	6	42
PERCENT	2	5	7	5	2	2	17	45	0	14	99*

(* Due to rounding total does not equal 100%)

1997 LIGHTNING FATALITIES BY AGE AND GENDER

	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>UNKNOWN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
0 TO 9	0	2	0	2	5
10 TO 19	0	3	0	3	7
20 TO 29	0	8	0	8	19
30 TO 39	4	5	0	9	21
40 TO 49	0	10	0	10	24
50 TO 59	0	6	0	6	14
60 TO 69	0	1	0	1	2
70 TO 79	0	1	0	1	2
80 TO 89	1	0	0	1	2
90 TO --	0	0	0	0	0
UNKNOWN	0	1	0	1	2
TOTALS	5	37	0	42	98*
PERCENT	12	88	0	100	

(* Due to rounding total does not equal 100%)

LEGEND

BF - Ball Field
BO - Boat
CA - Camping
EQ - Nr Hvy Equipment
GF - Golf
IW - In Water
OT - Other/Unknown
OU - Outside Open
TE - At Telephone
UT - Under Tree